

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A connector comprising an insulator and first and second signal contacts held by the insulator, each of the first and the second signal contacts comprising:

a fixed portion fixed to the insulator, a contacting portion connected to one end of the fixed portion and extending in a first direction;

a bent portion connected to the other end of the fixed portion;

a first intermediate portion extending from the bent portion in the first direction;

a second intermediate portion extending from the first intermediate portion in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction; and

a terminal portion extending from the second intermediate portion in the first direction, the first intermediate portion of the first signal contact and the first intermediate portion of the second signal contact being placed at positions which are different from each other in the second direction, the second intermediate portion of the first signal contact and the second intermediate portion of the second signal contact being different

from each other in the first direction, the bent portions being shaped to make the first and the second signal contacts be substantially equal in total length to each other[.];

wherein the first intermediate portion of the first signal contact and the first intermediate portion of the second signal contact are placed at positions which are different from each other in a third direction perpendicular to the first and the second directions, the second intermediate portion of the first signal contact and the second intermediate portion of the second signal contact are placed at positions which are different from each other in the third direction; and

wherein the contacting portion of the first signal contact and the contacting portion of the second signal contact are faced to each other in the second direction.

3 (canceled).

4 (canceled).

5 (canceled).

6 (original). The connector according to claim 1, wherein the contacting portion of the first signal contact and the contacting portion of the second signal contact are faced to each

other in the second direction.

7 (original). The connector according to claim 6, wherein the terminal portion of the first signal contact and the terminal portion of the second signal contact are disposed adjacent to each other in a third direction perpendicular to the first and the second directions.

8 (original). The connector according to claim 1, further comprising a ground contact held by the insulator, a combination of the first and the second signal contacts forming a contact pair, the ground contact being disposed adjacent to the contact pair on one side of the contact pair in a third direction perpendicular to the first and the second directions.

9 (original). The connector according to claim 8, wherein the ground contact extends in the first and the second directions in a plate-like shape.

10 (original). The connector according to claim 8, further comprising an additional ground contact held by the insulator and disposed adjacent to the contact pair on the other side of the contact pair in the third direction.

11 (original). The connector according to claim 10, wherein the additional ground contact extends in the first and the second directions in a plate-like shape.

12 (currently amended). The connector according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second ~~ground~~ signal contacts are used for transmission of a balanced signal.

13 (original). A substrate to be connected to the connector according to claim 1, the substrate comprising:

a plate portion;

first and second signal pads disposed on a surface of the plate portion and adapted to be connected to the terminal portions of the first and the second signal contacts; and

a ground layer formed inside the plate portion and extending in parallel to the surface of the plate portion over an area except at least those portions faced to the first and the second signal pads in the second direction.